



**PSYCHOLOGY
HIGHER LEVEL
PAPER 2**

Friday 7 November 2008 (morning)

2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer two questions, each chosen from a different option.

Marks will be awarded for clear presentation of **theories**, inclusion of appropriate **empirical studies** and **evaluation**. When structured questions are set (that is, with parts a and b) candidates should clearly label each part of their answer a and b.

Comparative psychology

1. In relation to non-human animal behaviour, to what extent can different types of altruism be interpreted as selfless? [20 marks]

2. Using **two** non-human animal examples, discuss how strategies used for mate selection increase fitness of the species. [20 marks]

3. (a) Outline **two** studies in which attempts were made to teach language to non-human animals. [6 marks]
(b) Evaluate the success of each of the attempts that you have outlined in part (a). [14 marks]

Cultural psychology

4. Evaluate the use of cultural dimensions in explaining human behaviour. [20 marks]

5. (a) Distinguish between the terms *universal behaviour* and *culturally-specific behaviour*. [4 marks]
(b) Examine two or more empirical research studies investigating universal behaviour. [16 marks]

6. Discuss two or more applications of research from cultural psychology. [20 marks]

The psychology of dysfunctional behaviour

7. Analyse **one** etiology and **one** treatment of **one** dysfunctional behaviour. *[20 marks]*
8. (a) Outline the main features of **one** classificatory system. *[6 marks]*
- (b) To what extent is the use of a classificatory system effective in the diagnostic process? *[14 marks]*
9. Describe and evaluate **two** empirical studies related to the psychology of dysfunctional behaviour. *[20 marks]*

Health psychology

10. Describe and evaluate **two** applications of research findings or theories from health psychology. *[20 marks]*
11. (a) Outline **two** research methods (*e.g.* experiments, observations, interviews) that are used in health psychology. *[10 marks]*
- (b) Evaluate the research method used in **one** research study from health psychology. *[10 marks]*
12. Discuss the predictive value of studies or theories of substance use and misuse. *[20 marks]*

Lifespan psychology

13. Discuss changes in identity. *[20 marks]*
14. Compare and contrast how **two** theories in lifespan psychology explain socialization. *[20 marks]*
15. Explain how cultural considerations may affect psychological research related to adolescence. *[20 marks]*

Psychodynamic psychology

16. With reference to research studies, discuss **two** research methodologies (*e.g.* case study, experiment) that are used in psychodynamic psychology. *[20 marks]*
17. “An assumption of the psychodynamic approach is the idea that adult behaviour is a product of the experience of the infant.”
Compare and contrast **two** theories that reflect this statement. *[20 marks]*
18. Compare and contrast the role of the unconscious mind in **two** psychodynamic theories. *[20 marks]*

Social psychology

19. Discuss ethical considerations in social psychology research studies. *[20 marks]*
20. (a) Outline **one** psychological study of conformity. *[6 marks]*
(b) Discuss how cultural considerations may affect interpretation of behaviour in psychological studies of conformity. *[14 marks]*
21. With reference to research studies, describe and evaluate **two** research methodologies (*e.g.* experiment, observation, interview) used in social psychology. *[20 marks]*
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